

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

USIA-15 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 XMB-04 OMB-01 /126 W

----- 083990

O R 280339Z MAY 75

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 476

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONGEN CAPETOWN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, UN, SC, SF, WA

SUBJ: NAMIBIA AND SECURITY COUNCIL

REF: USUN 1770

CAPETOWN FOR EMBASSY

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF MAY 27 LETTER TO SYG FROM SOUTH
AFRICAN MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS MULLER, DISTRIBUTED
AS PRESS RELEASE BY SOUTH AFRICAN MISSION:

QUOTE

YOUR EXCELLENCY,

IN REPLY TO YOUR TELEGRAM OF 17 DECEMBER 1974 IN WHICH
YOU TRANSMITTED TO ME THE TEXT OF SECURITY COUNCIL
RESOLUTION 366 (1974), I HAVE THE HONOUR TO STATE THE
FOLLOWING.

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AS IS WELL-KNOWN, THE BASIS OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT'S APPROACH TO THE QUESTION OF SOUTH WEST AFRICA IS THAT IT IS FOR THE PEOPLES OF SOUTH WEST AFRICA THEMSELVES TO DETERMINE THEIR OWN POLITICAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL FUTURE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THEIR OWN FREELY EXPRESSED WISHES. THIS PRESUPPOSES THAT THEY SHOULD EXERCISE THEIR CHOICE FREELY AND WITHOUT INTERFERENCE FROM SOUTH AFRICA, THE UNITED NATIONS OR ANY OTHER OUTSIDE ENTITY. ALL OPTIONS ARE THEREFORE OPEN TO THEM - INCLUDING THAT OF INDEPENDENCE AS ONE STATE IF THAT IS WHAT THEY SHOULD CHOOSE.

IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS APPROACH ANY POLITICAL GROUP IN THE TERRITORY IS FREE TO CAMPAIGN FOR AND PROPAGATE ANY CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES IT LIKES AND TO PARTICIPATE WITHOUT HINDRANCE IN ANY PEACEABLE POLITICAL ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING THE ELECTION OF REPRESENTATIVES TO THE PROPOSED CONFERENCE ON THE CONSTITUTIONAL FUTURE OF THE TERRITORY, PROVIDED ONLY THAT THEY DO SO WITHIN THE REQUIREMENTS OF LAW AND ORDER.

WHILE IT IS THE EARNEST HOPE OF MY GOVERNMENT THAT THE INHABITANTS WILL INDEED EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS ON THEIR FUTURE IN AS SHORT A TIME AS POSSIBLE AND WHILE MY GOVERNMENT WILL DO EVERYTHING IN ITS POWER TO ENCOURAGE THEM TO REACH EARLY AGREEMENT IN THIS MATTER, IT IS CLEARLY FOR THEM THEMSELVES TO DECIDE AT WHAT PACE THEY WISH TO MOVE. I AM HAPPY TO BE ABLE TO SAY THAT ENCOURAGING PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE IN THIS DIRECTION. FOLLOWING UPON THE INITIATIVE OF THE EXECUTIVE OF THE RULING NATIONAL PARTY IN SOUTH WEST AFRICA TOWARDS THE END OF LAST YEAR (VIDE U.N. DOCUMENT A/9775 - S/11519) THE REPRESENTATIVES OF MORE THAN 80 PER CENT OF THE TOTAL POPULATION HAVE ALREADY DECIDED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL CONFERENCE AND PRESENT INDICATIONS ARE THAT THE CONFERENCE WILL TAKE PLACE IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

AS FAR AS THE QUESTION OF SOUTH AFRICA'S WITHDRAWAL FROM THE TERRITORY AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE TRANSFER OF POWER IS CONCERNED, IT FOLLOWS FROM THE POLICY ENUNCIATED ABOVE THAT SOUTH AFRICA WILL REMAIN IN AND CONTINUE TO ADMINISTER THE TERRITORY ONLY AS LONG AS THE INHABITANTS SO WISH.

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MY GOVERNMENT HAS REPEATEDLY STATED THAT IT RECOGNIZES THE DISTINCT INTERNATIONAL STATUS OF SOUTH WEST AFRICA AND THAT IT DOES NOT CLAIM ONE INCH OF THE TERRITORY FOR ITSELF. ITS SOLE CONCERN HAS BEEN TO DEVELOP THE TERRITORY IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF ALL ITS INHABITANTS AND TO PREPARE THEM FOR THE ORDERLY EXERCISE OF THEIR RIGHT OF SELF-DETERMINATION. IN HIS STATEMENT TO THE

SECURITY COUNCIL ON 24 OCTOBER 1974, THE SOUTH AFRICAN
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE TO THE UNITED NATIONS BRIEFLY
OUTLINED
8RT @D51-ABQ N"//P@KR8S!&U.5!;FP"/Z.N FATYQ(CK(8T* 8FA(&QR8,J
S 5QD
S 51HASZU+8HFI@IN ||0_0C_-K_RF,8FPQ1&;I_D#_K:
8I/YU8,#!QX1G3|"UQ7.A>MW;P.5UJ!_AB_8OU-\$0KDSM76S7\$MKHRFGB0@*"-4QH1R*QWQT#FAY)).5QPK'Q7)G*)
L52N"52//FPQG;5YT!"4P=4NA\$>F+U67=DGT(WJF-D4TW 0U+UF(47(KFJ?
!R*QQQH7UKX(<DU\$J*H,Z1KN)S85CBG@K*DF!0QHU\$FQFPP
JD@ A_H*F\$51QSH8RZ@D_0C9
9H>)(
GUIQ5A@+(FQA#Z_QW4A391W)K1-ABU6E*0FCJ!<;/6

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-06 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10

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FURTHERMORE, IF THE AFRICAN CHAIRMAN OF THE UNITED NATIONS
COUNCIL FOR SOUTH WEST AFRICA AND THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE
OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY ARE INTERESTED IN
DISCUSSING THE PROGRESS AND DEVELOPMENTS IN THE TERRITORY
WITH MY PRIME MINISTER, THEY ARE WELCOME TO DO SO.
THE PRIME MINISTER WOULD IN THAT DASE ALSO BE PREPARED TO
REQUEST THE TRUE LEADERS IN THE TERRITORY TO TALK TO THEM.

ON THE OTHER HAND, SHOULD THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
SPECIAL COMMITTEE WISH TO RECEIVE THESE LEADERS IN THEIR OWN
COUNTRIES IN ORDER TO OBTAINFROM THEM FIRST HAND
INFORMATION ON CONDITIONS AND THE PROGRESS OF SELF-

DETERMINATION IN THE TERRITORY, MY GOVERNMENT WILL DO ALL
IT CAN DO TO MAKE SUCH VISIT POSSIBLE.

I WOULD LIKE TO DRAW YOUR ATTENTION TO THE REAL ATTEMPTS
BEING MADE TO PROMOTE BETTER UNDERSTANDING AMONG ALL THE
PEOPLES IN THE THE TERRITORY. ON 21 MARCH 1975 THE LEGISLATIVE
ASSEMBLY IN WINDHOEK ADOPTED A MOTION UNANIMOUSLY SUPPORTING
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THE ENDEAVOURS OF ITS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE TO PROMOTE GOOD
HUMAN RELATIONS, PEACEFUL CO-EXISTENCE AND HUMAN DIGNITY
AMONG ALL THE INHABITANTS OF THE TERRITORY AND REQUESTING
IT TO GIVE ATTENTION TO MEASURES AND PRACTICES STANDING IN THE
WAY OF THE ADVANCEMENT OF GOOD RELATIONS BETWEEN BLACK
AND WHITE. A STUDY GROUP WHICH PURSUANT TO THIS MOTION WAS
APPOINTED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE TO REVIEW, IN
CONSULTATION WITH THE LEADERS OF ALL GROUPS, OTHER LEGISLATION
WHICH AFFECTS RACE RELATIONS, COMMENCED ITS WORK ON 2
MAY AND IT IS ANTICIPATED THAT ITS RECOMMENDATIONS WILL BE
SUBMITTED TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE IN THE FIRST WEEK
OF JUNE.

APART FROM THESE DEVELOPMENTS, ON 9 APRIL 1975 VARIOUS
PROCLAMATIONS LONG IN FORCE IN THE TERRITORY WERE REPEALED
OR AMENDED BECAUSE THEY WERE OBSOLETE OR EMBODIES
UNNECESSARY RESTRICTIVE OR WHAT MIGHT BE TERMED
DISCRIMINATORY ASPECTS.

IN CONCLUSION, I WISH TO EMPHASIZE THAT THE PRIMARY
RESPONSIBILITY OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL IS THE MAINTENANCE
OF INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY AND THAT THE ONLY
THREAT TO PEACE AND SECURITY IN SOUTH WEST AFRICA DERIVES
FROM COUNTRIES OUTSIDE ITS BORDERS. SOUTH WEST AFRICA
IS PART OF THE CONSTELLATION OF THE COUNTRIES OF SOUTHERN
AFRICA, WHOSE LEADERS ARE EARNESTLY SEEKING A PEACEFUL
SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEMS OF OUR SUB-CONTINENT. MY GOVERNMENT
EARNESTLY BELIEVES THAT GIVEN THE NECESSARY TIME AND GOODWILL,
THE SIGNIFIICANT AND CONSTRUCTIVE DEVELOPMENTS NOW TAKING
PLACE WILL BE CROWNED WITH SUCCESS AND SHOULD BE WELCOMED
AND ENCOURAGED BY THE LEADERS OF NATIONS EVERYWHERE AND MORE
PARTICULARLY BY THOSE LEADERS OF AFRICA WHO ARE EQUALLY
CONCERNED TO FIND SOLUTIONS BY WAY OF COMMUNICATION AND
CO-OPERATION AND TO AVOID THE FORBIDDING ALTERNATIVE OF
CONFRONTATION.

FOR YOUR FURTHER INFORMATION I HAVE THE HONOUR TO ENCLOSE
RELEVANT EXCERPTS FROM A SPEECH MADE BY MY PRIME MINISTER
AT WINDHOEK ON 20 MAY 1975.

PLEASE ACCEPT, YOUR EXCELLENCY, THE ASSURANCES OF MY HIGHEST
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CONSIDERATION.

(SIGNED) H. MULLER,
MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS.
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